

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 19366 210959Z
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 19366

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR PGOV EG IS US
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN ADVANCE TEAMS

REF: (A) CAIRO 19173, (B) STATE 208646

1. HASSAN KAMEL TELEPHONED THIS MORNING TO SAY GOE WILL
SEND TWO RPT TWO ADVANCE TEAMS.

(A) FIRST WILL LEAVE ON AUGUST 29 AND ARRIVE WASHINGTON
FOLLOWING DAY. KAMEL DID NOT YET HAVE FLIGHT DATA, BUT
PROMISED TO PROVIDE ASAP. TEAM WILL CONSIST OF RAUF
ASSAD, KAMEL'S DEPUTY FOR ADMINISTRATION; MAHMOUD HILMI,
WHO IS CHARGED WITH SECURITY MATTERS; MOHAMED FAIZ, WHO
IS IN THE SECRETARIAT OF THE PRESIDENCY; AND BRIGADIER
TALAAAT SHARAWI, WHO WILL SURVEY COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRE-
MENTS. ALTHOUGH KAMEL HAD EARLIER SAID HE WOULD LEAD THE
GROUP, HE HAS DECIDED NOT TO DO SO BECAUSE OF STRAINS OF
RAMADAN FASTING.

(B) SECOND GROUP WILL CONSIST OF 11 PERSONS. THEY WILL
LEAVE ON SEPTEMBER 1, ARRIVING WASHINGTON FOLLOWING DAY.
THIS SECOND TEAM WILL INSTALL THE COMMUNICATIONS THAT THE
EGYPTIAN DELEGATION WILL REQUIRE. KAMEL UNDERTOOK PROVIDE
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NAMES AND FLIGHT DATA ASAP.

2. IN ANSWER TO QUERY THAT I HAD PUT TO KAMEL ABOUT
WHETHER SADAT WOULD BE PREPARED TO WORK ON FRIDAYS, THE
MUSLIM SABBATH, KAMEL SAID HE HAD CHECKED THIS WITH THE
PRESIDENT, WHO INDICATED HE IS PREPARED TO WORK SEVEN
DAYS A WEEK. I CAUTIONED KAMEL THAT MR. BEGIN WILL

PROBABLY WANT TO OBSERVE THE SHABBAT. KAMEL SAID THE PRESIDENT UNDERSTANDS THIS.

3. ASKED ABOUT AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN TODAY'S CAIRO PRESS THAT SADAT PLANS TO MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS WHILE IN WASHINGTON, KAMEL SAID THE PRESIDENT WANTS TO DEFER ANY DECISION ON SUCH MEETINGS UNTIL CAMP DAVID TALKS. (DEPT SHOULD KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT SADAT IS BEING URGED BY HIS ADVISERS TO SPEND A DAY OR TWO IN WASHINGTON AFTER CAMP DAVID TALKS CONCLUDE IN ORDER TO MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS. HE, TOO, ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO HIS RELATIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS AND I EXPECT THAT HE MIGHT LIKE TO STAY ON A FEW DAYS FOR THIS PURPOSE, IF AGREEABLE TO PRESIDENT CARTER. IF NOT ALREADY DONE, WE MAY WISH TO DO SOME CONTINGENCY PLANNING ON WHERE IN WASHINGTON SADAT AND HIS GROUP MIGHT BE ACCOMMODATED SHOULD HE WISH TO STAY A FEW DAYS AFTER THE CAMP DAVID TALKS.) EILTS

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